

Karen Gaio Hansberger, Mayor Floyd Petersen, Mayor pro tempore Robert Christman, Councilmember Stan Brauer, Councilmember Robert Ziprick, Councilmember

COUNCIL AGENDA:

November 9, 2004

TO:

City Council

VIA:

Dennis R. Halloway, City Manager

FROM:

Deborah Woldruff, AICP, Community Development Director

SUBJECT:

General Plan Update Project – Proposed City Council Schedule for

Public Hearings

RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation is that the City Council approve the proposed public hearings schedule for the General Plan Update Project.

BACKGROUND

On October 12, 2004, Mayor Hansberger requested that staff prepare a schedule for the City Council's review of the General Plan Update Project. In response to her request, staff proposes the following schedule for public hearings:

November 16, 2004

Introduction to General Plan Elements (1.0)

Economic Development Element (4.0)

Noise Element (7.0)

December 7, 2004

Housing Element (5.0)

Public Services and Facilities Element (8.0)

December 14, 2004

Transportation And Circulation Element (6.0)

CMP Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA)

January 11, 2005

Conservation And Open Space Element (9.0)

Public Health And Safety Element (10.0)

January 25, 2005

Land Use Element (2.0)

Community Design Element (3.0)

February 8, 2005

Draft Final Program Environmental Impact Report

(FEIR) (with Response To Comments)

February 22, 2005

General Plan Implementation Programs (11.0) Certify Program FEIR, Adopt General Plan, Approve TIA

The schedule pairs the controversial elements and related environmental documents with elements that do not appear to be controversial. Also, some additional components related to public testimony may need to be incorporated into the schedule.

<u>ANALYSIS</u>

Adherence to the proposed schedule will enable the City Council to complete the General Plan Update Project in late February 2004. It will also provide the City Council with a systematic approach reviewing the documents.

ENVIRONMENTAL

The proposed schedule is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that it does not meet the statutory definition of a "project". The CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 broadly defines a project as the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The approval of the proposed public hearings schedule for the General Plan Update Project could not have a direct or indirect effect on the environment. Any potential impacts that might result from the adoption of the Draft General Plan (October 2004) or related documents have been identified and evaluated in the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report that was prepared for the Project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

On September 28, 2004, the City Council approved an Addendum to the Agreement for Professional Services with LSA Associates, Inc. and, an appropriation of \$40,950 to cover the additional costs of the General Plan Update Project. Extending the public hearing process beyond February 2005 may result in additional project costs not covered by the recently approved Addendum.

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